

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 4, 1975

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 75-53

• TO: All County Welfare Directors

SUBJECT: Implementation of P.L. 93-368 - Federal Reimbursement for
Interim Assistance to SSI/SSP Applicants

This letter is to provide instructions to counties who wish to participate in the state implementation of P.L. 93-368, which provides for federal reimbursement of interim assistance to SSI/SSP applicants. Proposed emergency regulations on this provision are being adopted and will be transmitted to counties in the very near future.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

On August 7, 1974, P.L. 93-368 was enacted to permit the limited assignment of SSI/SSP benefits to allow SSA to reimburse states or their political subdivisions directly for interim payments made to SSI/SSP applicants. The law is intended to ensure the availability of assistance to meet basic needs of applicants for SSI/SSP while their eligibility is being determined. The interim assistance provisions were enacted on an experimental basis, and will expire on June 30, 1976, unless further action is taken by Congress.

Interim assistance includes all general assistance/relief funds paid during the period for which an individual was eligible for SSI/SSP benefits beginning with the month of application and ending with the receipt of the initial payment from SSA.

An agreement between the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare and the State Department of Benefit Payments was executed on February 11, 1975, to establish the interim assistance provisions in California. County participation in the program is optional. Counties which elect to participate must enter into a contract with the state. This contract must be fully executed prior to the effective operation of the program in the individual counties. Since this is a voluntary program no administrative costs incurred by the county in operating this program will be reimbursed by the state or the federal government.

OBSOLETE

GEN 654 (2/74)

Superseded by ACL 77-15Issued 3-17-77

Under the terms of the contract, the county must secure written authorization (SSP 14) from the recipient to allow mailing of the initial SSI payment directly to the county. Upon receipt of the check from SSA, the county shall deduct the amount of interim assistance owed to it and, within 10 working days, will forward the balance (if any) to the recipient.

PROCEDURES

County/State Contract

Attached are five (5) copies of the Interim Assistance contract to be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors or other individual authorized to bind the county. If a county chooses to participate in the program, it must return five executed copies of the contract plus one copy of the Board of Supervisor's Supporting Resolution to:

State Department of Benefit Payments
Contracts Management Section, M.S. 14-60
Attention: Ronald Landini
744 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Authorization for Reimbursement (SSP 14)

To initiate recoupment of interim assistance, the county shall secure the signature of the recipient or his representative on Form SSP 14. This form authorizes the SSA to mail the initial SSI/SSP payment directly to the county. The county may recoup all interim assistance paid during the period of SSI/SSP eligibility up to receipt of the initial check, regardless of the date the recipient signs the SSP 14. In order for the county to be reimbursed for the interim assistance payments, the SSP 14 must be processed by SSA prior to the initial SSI/SSP check being issued.

When a potential SSI/SSP recipient contacts the SSA district office concerning aid, SSA will take an application and then refer the applicant to the county welfare office if the applicant is in need of immediate financial assistance beyond what is available through the SSI program. The county will secure a signed SSP 14 from the applicant and forward the blue copy to the SSA district office.

An applicant may seek aid from the county welfare office prior to contacting the SSA. In that case, a signed SSP 14 will be secured from the applicant at the county welfare office and then sent to the local SSA office. The applicant will be referred to SSA for SSI/SSP application. To insure that application is made, SSA will pursue follow-up action based on the SSP 14. It is anticipated that no further county action would be required in regard to the SSI/SSP applications.

Notice of Action (SSP 17)

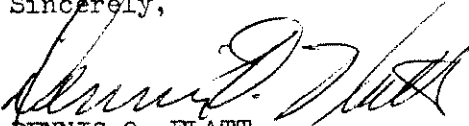
When the initial SSI/SSP payment is received, the county will compute the amount of interim assistance owed and deduct this sum from the initial check. Within 10 working days from receipt of the initial payment, the county must send to the recipient the balance of the check and a copy of Form SSP 17 which explains the transaction.

Requirements for Fiscal Accountability (ABD 217)

To comply with the fiscal accounting requirements of P.L. 93-368, and to enable the state to monitor the county's performance under the state/county contract, the county shall submit a monthly report to the Department of Benefit Payments. Report form ABD 217 is provided for this purpose, and is due on the 20th calendar day following the report month. Further information and forms will be sent to you in a follow-up letter.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Adult Program Management Branch at (916) 445-0813.

Sincerely,



DENNIS O. FLATT
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA

Attachments